

# SBARA's Groundplane

MARCH 2007 VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3

*The monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Amateur Radio Association*

## President's Shack By Steve KA6S

The month seemed to fly by this time. I hope everyone is in good health!

We've had our first meeting to organize the General Radio Theory Class and have made lots of progress. We have the dates and location chosen. Classes will be held on May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and June 6 in the Fire Administration Training room. (Availability is still being confirmed). So far, Al Rendon and myself are signed up as teachers for this course. If you are interested in teaching one of these evenings, drop me a note.

I'd also like to announce that Doug Wilson (definitely a relation) has accepted the position of "Club Photographer" and that Isaac Feriante will serve as "Raffle Chairman" for this next year. Thanks to both young men (and their families).

No significant news on the Club station at this point. We have yet to receive a copy of the County legal council's letter denying our request.

Let's move this month's pre-meeting get-together for dinner back to **China Garden**. The address is 3241 Walnut Avenue, Ph# 792-8945 in Fremont. See you there starting at **6pm**.

73 de Steve KA6S

## Apple Computer

The folks who brought you the ipod

and the McIntosh computer have said goodbye to C-R-T monitor. Apple Computer will completely rid its product line of cathode-ray-tube monitors.

As such, the Cupertino California based manufacturer becomes one of the first major PC makers to sell only flat-panel displays.

The move is part of an industry-wide trend both in computers and television toward the use liquid-crystal display, or LCD, monitors, which are sleeker, less weighty and more power-efficient than their older CRT counterparts.

Apple was among the first computer companies to bet big on LCD in 2001 when it used the thinner technology to replace all of its CRT displays except for its candy-colored, egg-shaped iMac line. By January 2002, Apple replaced those CRT-based iMacs with a revamped, space-saving design featuring a swivel LCD display. (more on page 3.)

## Upgrade Ticker

Isaac Feriante, KI6DIL passed Element 3 and is now a General Class Licensee. Isaac is now on HF— Take a look for him on the Low-Bands and give him some contacts!!!

Not to be out done by his son, Adam Feriante also recently upgraded his license. His new Station License is now Oh...you need to come to the March meeting to here Adam and Isaac tell their own story!!

Bill  
WB9YVM



It's official and it's here. Amateur Radio is now without a code requirement for licensing. Whatever we may feel about the subject, this is now our reality like it or not. One thing we know for sure, this change is going to bring about change primarily in the number of licensed amateurs.



New operators need to be accepted. The "no-code"; ruling was made by the FCC not by any of these new hams currently being licensed. Every licensed amateur must do their part to warmly welcome those who are newly licensed and now a part of the Amateur Radio Fraternity. Remember; "no-code required"; does not mean "no-code allowed."

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## SBARA Board Meeting Minutes

"During our monthly Board meeting which took place during February, some of the items that were discussed of general interest were..."

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME (PM)</u>	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>
02.02.07	07:35	Budget review Newsletter mailing tabled Cost cutting discussed
	08:15	Budget approved Reimbursement form reviewed & approved
	08:20	Zucchini Festival tabled
	09:15	New membership form approved Field Day discussed TODO: Form field day committee Field Day raffle tabled
	09:25	Club station Waiting for letter from County Attorney Discuss @ March General Meeting Estate equipment Policy discussed Announce on newsletter Sell on EBay if not, via newsletter
	09:40	May 19 - East Bay Convention Tabled - need more info. General Class theory class Contact Fremont for class space Open Positions Raffle Chairperson Meeting presentation facilitator Club photographer
	09:50	Meeting closed
02.21.07	07:50	Begin Meeting (General Class Theory) Held on Wednesday evenings Time: 7-9PM Begins: May 2 Possibly 6-8 classes Steve will create outline Steve runs 1st class
	08:50	Social Director - Al (Brad helps) Meeting closed

Watch for details on these topics through our Clubs various forms of communication including the monthly meetings!

## Membership Dues Reminder....

Pretty much all members have paid their membership dues. If you haven't: please remember that there is now a late fee after April 30th! Please send a check to Bernhard Hailer, SBARA Treasure, 4952 Seneca Park Loop, Fremont, CA 94538.

Please fill out the SBARA Membership Application Form.

You can find it at <http://www.sbara.org>, click on „SBARA Forms“.

Thanks!

# Fremont CERT District Training

Following are the CERT districts CE (continuing education) dates for this year and all City wide drill activities. As of today we have not assigned topics for these classes. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

We are still reporting to Fire Station 1's temporary location at State Street and Capitol. We hope to be back at our station around July or August.

## CE Classes

Mar 13: 7:00 pm; Temp. Fire Station 1. This is also our annual district drill at the end of the current CERT class. Be sure to bring your GoPacks and dress warmly.

May 22: Tuesday, 7:00 pm, CERT Central  
Jul 12: Thursday, 7:00 pm, CERT Central  
Sept 10: Monday, 7:00 pm, CERT Central  
Nov 10: Saturday, 10 am, CERT Central

## Other Dates

March 24: Saturday

Annual CERT-Net Drill, 9:00 am, Temp. Fire Station 1  
Apr 14: Saturday, TESA. This is a forum for all residents of Fremont. Please plan to attend if you can.

July 28: Saturday

Special Skills Drill, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. CERT Central. This is the first time for this event. We will have an IC running and dispatching teams out to scenarios in the field. You will be able to come anytime during the day. Chuck, Kay, and I are looking forward to seeing everyone.

August 7: Tuesday

National Night Out. Plan an activity for you and your neighbors.

September 15: Saturday

Annual CERT Family Picnic. Please watch your mail (and e-mail) for information on this event. The date and/or location are not yet finalized. This year there will be no drills. However there will be learning stations if you wish to refresh your skills. This will be a time to relax and meet other CERT members. Bring your family for a day of fun. Lunch will be provided.

If you have not yet received the yellow flyer, mailed the first week of January, or the green newsletter, mailed February 1st, please contact Kay Diack, 510.792.8117, and she will get a copy to you.

Vic Valdes is currently looking for volunteers for the cities MRC (Medical Reserve Corps). If you are a nurse, physician, dentist, 1st responder, etc. and are interested, please send an e-mail to [firepubed@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:firepubed@ci.fremont.ca.us) giving your full name, address, e-mail address, home phone, and cell phone. Vic is planning a meeting later this month for all interested parties.

*Gordon Yost*

*Centerville CERT District Coordinator*

*Fremont Fire Department*

Email to:

Centerville CERT

[centervillecert@yahoo.com](mailto:centervillecert@yahoo.com)

FirePubEd

[firepubed@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:firepubed@ci.fremont.ca.us)

## Apple Computer

The maker of Macintosh computers introduced an \$899 iMac specifically for schools and students, replacing the eMac, which was the company's last remaining CRT-based model.

As an aside, with CRT based monitors and receivers being phased out all across the entertainment and data processing industries, replacement picture tubes are getting harder and harder to find.

# 2007 Hayward Zucchini Festival

The call is going out early this year for SBARA members to once again volunteer at the Hayward Zucchini Festival. This year's festival is on August 18th and 19th and is the one event where your help REALLY pays off.

How does SBARA raise the funds to pay the rent at the Veterans Building and sponsor all the year's activities? The answer is the Hayward Zucchini Festival. In 2006 we received \$1,300 for our support at the 2005 festival. The Zucchini Festival has become SBARA's major fundraiser, that is, if we can recruit enough participants to fill all the shifts on both days of the festival.

As mentioned above, we are starting early in an attempt to fill every shift and we have almost half the shifts filled as of the February 2007 SBARA meeting. Since we still have halfway to go to reach the goal of filling all the shifts, the leadership team is asking those

of you who haven't yet signed up, to consider signing up for a shift on this coming August 18th or 19th. You do not need to bring anything since the Festival provides the Business Band Transceivers. It's fun for the family too.

If you are interested in bringing the entire family, Mike Fung WA6AWI will provide a family pass for any SBARA member who signs up for a shift. If you haven't participated in the past give it a try this year. The festival is close by in Hayward and takes only a few hours of your time. The benefit is enormous for SBARA. Go to [www.sbara.org](http://www.sbara.org) and in the menu bar click on 'Annual Events', then 'Hayward Zucchini Festival' for information and a map to Kennedy Park.

For signing up or if you have any questions, contact Al Rendon at (510) 656-2427 or by e-mail at [wt6k@arrl.net](mailto:wt6k@arrl.net).

## DeAnza Flea Market Returns — March 10

This is a reminder that the 2007 Electronics Flea Market begins in two weeks. Mark your calendars and remember to be there. We are at De Anza College (near the intersection of highways I-280 and CA-85) again this year.

The market is located in the northeast corner of De Anza College (near the intersection of Stevens Creek Boulevard and Stelling Avenue in Cupertino). See the website at - <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com> for more details.

It's time for the Electronics Flea Market at De Anza College this Saturday, March 10th from 5:00 AM 'til noon. Your host and beneficiary for this month's market is the Foothills Amateur Radio Society <http://www.fars.k6ya.org>

More information and directions may be found at the Electronics Flea Market web site at <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com> These flea markets are organized by ASVARO (Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations <http://www.asvaro.org> as a fund raising activity for local amateur radio organizations.

## Groundplane SBARA Newsletter Copyright 2007 SBARA

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is six days prior to the end of the previous month. Articles can be sent by email to:

Bill, at [hamradio@comcast.net](mailto:hamradio@comcast.net)

Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines. Articles are due the Wednesday prior to the monthly meeting.

The opinions expressed in the Groundplane are strictly those of the authors.

## Treasure Note

### SBARA Treasurer Note, March 2007

the budget for this year has been drafted. It was reviewed and finally approved by the board during a board meeting held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> – just after the last Groundplane was made public. The budget is based on the expenses and the income we had last year. Because last year was so immensely successful, we have now actually a large pair of shoes to put on: we have to work a lot to achieve it again! But I'm very confident that we actually can do it, with so many active and diligent members at our hands.

There are a number of tasks approaching for the treasurer. It's tax time. Not that we would have to pay any: the SBARA is exempt. However this status has to

be gained again each year, and the IRS wants actually to see the flow of money through our club. We have developed a spreadsheet last year which will significantly ease this process this year.

If you had expenses for the SBARA you want to be reimbursed for, there is now a new form required. Please fill out the SBARA Reimbursement Request Form you can find at <http://www.sbara.org>, click on „SBARA Forms“. All receipts MUST be glued on letter format sheets of paper, if they don't have this format already.

Yours sincerely - 73!  
Bernhard, DL4MHK / AE6YN

## Calendar of Events

### March 3 Transmitter Hunt - Fremont-

<<http://www.thunt.org/>> March 4 Livermore Swap meet - CANCELED!

<<http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html>>

### March 9 SBARA Meeting

<<http://www.sbara.org/meetings.html#general>>

### March 11 Daylight Savings time Begins

<<http://www.webexhibits.com/daylightsaving/>>

### March 10 Foothill Flea Market

<<http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>>

### March 17 Transmitter Hunt - 6:00pm! Foxes Choice -

<<http://www.thunt.org/>>

### March 31 Transmitter Hunt - Pack A Lunch -

<<http://www.thunt.org/>>

### April 1 Livermore Swapmeet

<<http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html>>

### April 7 Foothill Flea Market

<<http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>>

### April 7 Transmitter Hunt - Fremont-

<<http://www.thunt.org/>> April 13 SBARA Meeting -

<<http://www.sbara.org/meetings.html#general>>

### April 21-22 Baker to Vegas 120 Mile Relay Race

<<http://www.baker2vegas.org/>>

### April 21 Transmitter Hunt - Foxes Choice

<<http://www.thunt.org/>>

### April 27-29 Visalia International DX Convention

<<http://www.scdxc.org/visalia/index.html>>

### April 28 Valley of the Moon (Sonoma) Hamfest

[www.VOMARC.org/Hamfest.html](http://www.VOMARC.org/Hamfest.html)

## Ham Licensing

A significant increase in licensing is going to take place. To meet this challenge, the ARRL has produced a great little introductory handout that would be helpful for anyone interested in obtaining a license or just now getting on the air. The booklet was included as a "tear-out" in the March issue of QST but also can be downloaded at the following ARRL website - [www.arrl.org/HFWelcome/Welcome.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/HFWelcome/Welcome.pdf) here.



# AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

This session is produced by: Bay Area Educational Amateur Radio Society

## Study Session, Followed by Exam

Offering a one day study session for Technician or General theory, followed by testing. Morse Code tests will not be given.

WHEN: Saturday, April 28, 2007  
8:00am - 5pm

WHERE: South San Francisco, CA

FEE: \$30.00

Register: [www.baears.com](http://www.baears.com)

Questions: Ross Peterson 650-349-5349 or [wb6zbu@arrl.net](mailto:wb6zbu@arrl.net)

Class size is limited, reservations are required.

Prospective Hams should have an active Ham as a sponsor to assist in familiarization with amateur operation.

## RESERVE YOUR SPACE \* BE A HAM!



Sponsored by:

GENENTECH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

South County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (<http://www.k6mpn.org/>)

# **Codeless Technician Amateur Radio Licensing Class**

**A 2-Saturday Codeless Technician  
Amateur Radio Course is being offered  
at the San Jose Police Communications  
Building on**

**24 and 31 March 2007**

**From**

**8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

The exam will be proctored by ARRL on 31 March at 5:00 pm. The class is open to anyone at \$35.00 per person (which includes all course materials and text), and the exam fee is \$14.00 per person.

San Jose Police Communications Bldg  
855 North San Pedro Street  
San Jose, CA

(Additional information on backside)

# Amateur Radio Technician Class Course Content

The Amateur Radio class will review the question pool to be used in selecting questions for the proctored exam that will be administered at the end of the second day of class. The exam will consist of 35 questions as follows:

<u>Subelement</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Number of Questions</u>
T1	FCC Rules	5
T2	Methods of Communication	2
T3	Radio Phenomena	2
T4	Station Licensee Duties	3
T5	Control Operator Duties	3
T6	Good Operating Practices	3
T7	Basic Communications Electronics	3
T8	Good Engineering Practice	6
T9	Special Operations	2
T0	Electrical, Antenna Structure, And RF Safety Practices	6

The class will review each question and receive instruction as needed on related topics to clarify the answer to the question. Sample practice exams will be taken. Class handouts, included in the cost, will be the textbook, Ham Radio Licence Manual, (ARRL, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, list price: \$24.95), at least 6 sample exams and answer sheets, a course syllabus which reviews each pool question, answer sheets for self-practice of total question pool, and extra material if needed.

The exam will be proctored by Volunteer Examiners (VEs) from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) at the end of the second class day. The exam fee is \$14.00 per examinee. Passing is no more than 9 wrong answers. Anyone failing to pass the exam with an error score of 10-11 may pay the fee again to retake the exam if desired.

Instructor: Chris Swartout, N6WCP  
(408) 272-6835 Option 2  
cas30@pacbell.net

## Biographical Sketch

Chris Swartout has been teaching amateur radio classes for over 10 years, and has helped over 220 people obtain their licenses. His down to earth approach to teaching the question pool, from which proctored exams are composed, has enabled administrators, students, domestic engineers (some call them housewives), financiers, teachers, and others to understand the material well enough to pass those exams. His success rate is better than 98%. Shortly after moving to San Jose, he obtained his Technician Amateur Radio License, and started volunteering in his church's emergency communications system. During the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989, he spent the first five hours as a radio operator and as net control of an emergency net. Seeing the need for radio communications in emergencies, He joined San Jose RACES in 1989, and upgraded to a General Class license in 2001. He has been teaching amateur radio classes whenever he encounters a group that wants to learn.



**South Bay Amateur Radio  
Association**  
**Founded 1974**  
**Mailing Address**  
**Box 8377**  
**Fremont, Ca. 94537-8377**  
**Web Site — [www.sbara.org](http://www.sbara.org)**

**President**

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Adam Feriante , KG6HDT

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Mike Studer, K6EEP

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Bill Artelt, WB9YVM

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**Quartermaster**

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**Program Facilitator**

Al Rendon, WT6K

**Refreshments**

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AF6YL and KI6DIL

**Board Members at Large**

Lloyd Hartshome, N6DOK  
Sam Severs, WS6S

**Fremont Repeaters & Net Information**

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5  
 WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2  
 WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2  
 N6OXR - 146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0  
 N6OXR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0  
 ARES - Tuesday @ 7:30pm - 147.015 + PL 103.5  
 CW - Tuesday & Thursday on 75 meters—3.880  
 & on 10 Meters at 28.400 MHz, @ 8:30 p.m.

The [South Bay Amateur Radio Association](http://www.sbara.org) is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training for

new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at the Veterans Hall in Niles (Fremont), California. The meeting begins at 7:30

PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

For those who would like to upgrade their licenses, here's an alternative testing opportunity. The Silicon Valley VE Group has scheduled regular test sessions every alternate Saturday morning at the HP facility in Cupertino. The ARRL site shows the following info for this Saturday, information:

\*Sponsor: \* SILICON VALLEY VE GROUP

\*Time: \* 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 \*Contact: \* MORRIS E JONES  
 (408)507-4698  
 \*Email: \*  
 AD6ZH@ARRL.NET  
 <mailto:AD6ZH@ARRL.NET>  
 \*VEC: \* ARRL/VEC  
 <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/licensing/vecs.html>  
 \*Location: \* HEWLETT PACKARD  
 19333 VALLCO PKWY  
 BLDG #2  
 TESTS START BETWEEN 8-10:30AM

MAP N37 19.490  
W122 00.568  
CUPERTINO, CA 95014

In addition, these sessions are planned every two weeks through at least the end of May (March 17, April 7, April 21...).

**ANAHEIM, CA**

(Near Disneyland)  
933 N. Euclid St., 92801  
(714) 533-7373  
(800) 854-6046  
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.  
anaheim@hamradio.com

**BURBANK, CA**

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd, 91506  
(818) 842-1786  
(800) 854-6046  
Eric, KA6IHT, Mgr.  
Magnolia between  
S. Victory & Buena Vista  
burbank@hamradio.com

**OAKLAND, CA**

2210 Livingston St., 94606  
(510) 534-5757  
(800) 854-6046  
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.  
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp  
oakland@hamradio.com

**SAN DIEGO, CA**

5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123  
(858) 560-4900  
(800) 854-6046  
Tom, KM6K, Mgr.  
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa  
sandiego@hamradio.com

**SUNNYVALE, CA**

510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085  
(408) 736-9496  
(800) 854-6046  
Howard, W6HOC, Mgr.  
So. from Hwy. 101  
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

**NEW CASTLE, DE**

(Near Philadelphia)  
1509 N. DuPont Hwy., 19720  
(302) 322-7092  
(800) 644-4476  
Rick, K3TL, Mgr.  
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295  
newcastle@hamradio.com

**PORTLAND, OR**

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97223  
(503) 598-0555  
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Leon, W7AD, Mgr.  
Tigard-99W exit  
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portland@hamradio.com

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8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231  
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(800) 444-9476  
John, N5EHP, Mgr.  
denver@hamradio.com

**PHOENIX, AZ**

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Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.  
1 mi. east of I-17  
phoenix@hamradio.com

**ATLANTA, GA**

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Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285  
atlanta@hamradio.com

**WOODBIDGE, VA**

(Near Washington D.C.)  
14803 Build America Dr. 22191  
(703) 643-1063  
(800) 444-4799  
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.  
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1  
woodbridge@hamradio.com

**SALEM, NH**

(Near Boston)  
224 N. Broadway, 03079  
(603) 898-3750  
(800) 444-0047  
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- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
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(800) 854-6046  
Howard, W6HOC, Mgr.  
So. from Hwy. 101  
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**OAKLAND, CA**

2210 Livingston St., 94606  
(510) 534-5757  
(800) 854-6046  
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.  
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp  
oakland@hamradio.com

**ICOM****IC-706MkIIg** HF/VHF Transceiver

- All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
- 100W HF/6M, 50W/2M, 20W/440 MHz
- AF-DSP • Plug and Play Filters - No Soldering
- Easy-to-Navigate menus

**Low Pricing!****IC-756 PRO III** All mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
- 32 bit IF DSP • SSB/CW Synchronous tuning
- Enhanced 5 inch color TFT w/spectrum scope
- Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
- Multiple DSP controlled AGC loops
- Advanced CW functions
- 101 alphanumeric memories

**The Ultimate Radio!****ALINCO****DJ-196T** 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS + DCS built in
- "S" meter
- Auto Dialer

**Low Pricing!****DR-135TP** 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

**Low Pricing!**

# Announcements

SBARA monthly meeting:

March 9th.

Veterans Hall in Niles



Come to the Monthly Meeting & Bring a Friend!!

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

P.O. Box 8377

Fremont, Ca. 94537-8377